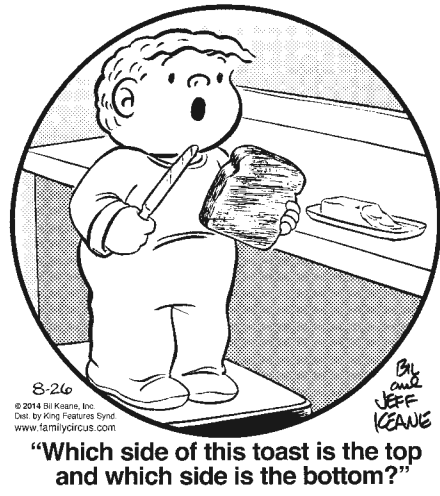


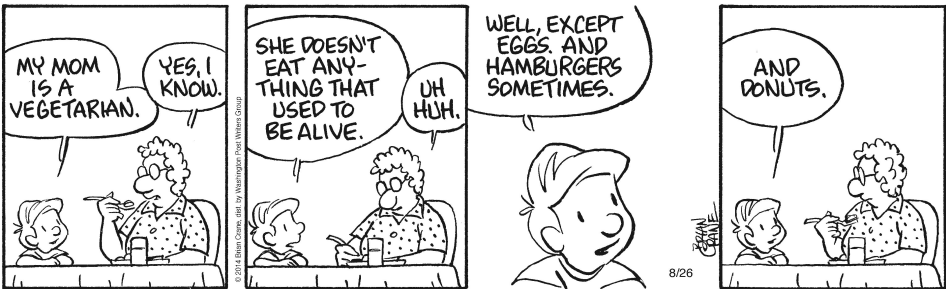
FAMILY CIRCUS | BIL KEANE



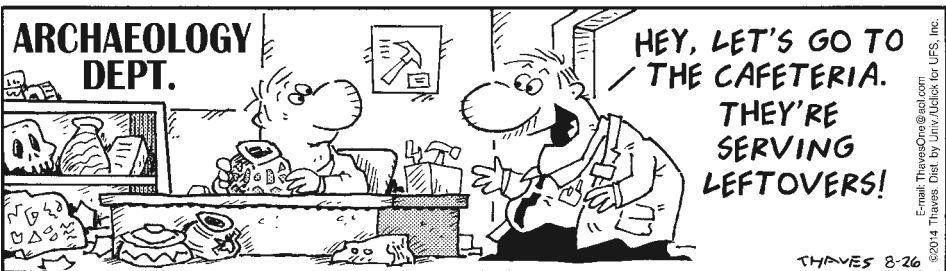
ZITS | JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



PICKLES | BRIAN CRANE



FRANK AND ERNEST | BOB THAVES



THE BORN LOSER | ART SANSOM



PEANUTS | CHARLES M. SCHULZ



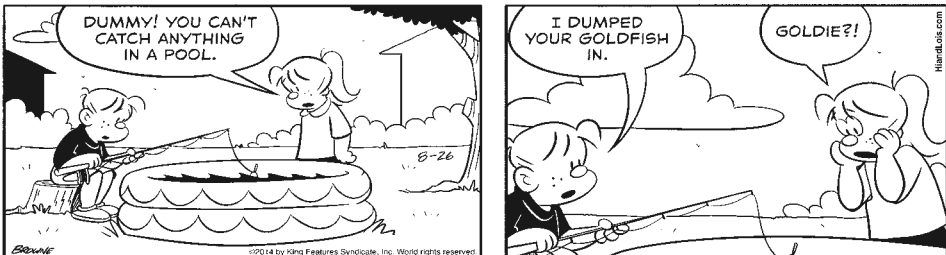
HÄGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



BEETLE BAILEY | MORT WALKER



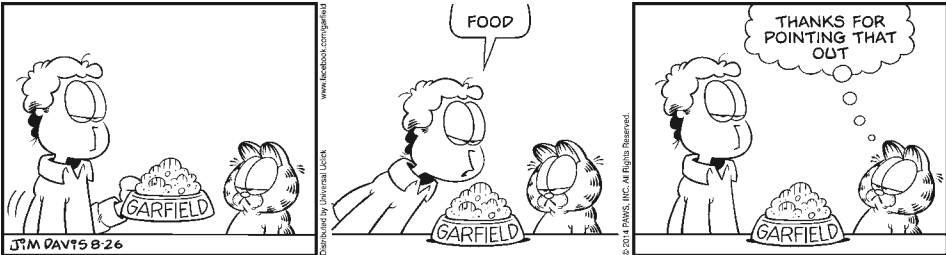
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN AND GREG WALKER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE | LYNN JOHNSTON



GARFIELD | JIM DAVIS



Ring From Broken Engagement Gets Another Chance To Shine

DEAR ABBY: I was engaged several years ago, but the engagement didn't last. We broke up and I gave him back his ring. We remain close friends, however, and hang out at least once a week.

I have been dating another guy for a couple of years, and we're thinking about getting engaged. I am wondering if it would be improper to ask my ex if we could buy my old ring from him. It was — and still is — my "dream ring," and I know my ex has kept it in the glove box of his car ever since I gave it back to him.

I don't want to commit a faux pas, but it seems silly to buy another identical ring. What do you think? — HEADED DOWN THE AISLE

DEAR HEADED DOWN THE AISLE: If you haven't discussed this with your current boyfriend, you should. It might bother him to see you wearing an engagement ring that was given to you by someone else. If he says it's OK, I can't see why you shouldn't ask your former fiancé if he'd be willing to part with it. Frankly, he might be glad to get the money.

DEAR ABBY: I have a love problem I could use your help with. I go to college, and I met an amazing girl, "Lorena," here. She's very religious, which I like about her. We have been talking, but I'm afraid to ask her out. I don't have the best morals, and I'm afraid I would corrupt her if we did go out. I don't want to make her into something she isn't.

Should I let her be who she is, or take the risk of dating her and hope she'll be happy? When I think about Lorena, I realize I'd do anything for her — even change my life. Please tell me what to do. — WILD MAN IN KENT, OHIO

DEAR WILD MAN: Feeling as you do about Lorena, I think you should take the risk and ask her out. Because you would do "anything" for her, make it your top priority not to push her into anything you know wouldn't be good for her. You wouldn't be the first "wild man" to meet someone who made him want to be a

better man. I wish you luck.

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman in my 50s. My sister, who is also in her 50s, lives with me and has for several years. Could you please settle a dispute we are having?

She says that mail is private and when I bring my mail in from the mailbox, I should leave hers in the box. I say it is just common courtesy to bring all of it in at once and place it in a predetermined spot for the recipient. I am not saying that mail is not private, because it is. And I would never dream of opening anyone's mail, but don't you have to look at the envelope to know which person it belongs to?

So what do you think? Should it be left in the box or should I bring it all in? — STUMPED SISTER IN HOUSTON

DEAR SISTER: I think what you have been doing is both wise and prudent. Unless the mailbox has a lock on it, I would recommend bringing all the mail into the house as soon as possible after it's delivered to prevent theft. However, because your sister is sensitive about it and asked that you leave it in the box for her to retrieve, you should do as she has requested.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

© 2014, Universal Press Syndicate

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun and a Moon in Virgo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR TUESDAY, AUG. 26, 2014:

This year you will experience a new beginning in a significant area of your life. You'll have a tendency to give more than you have in the past. You even might do some volunteer work. If you are a healer, you touch many people. If you are single, you keep attracting people who are emotionally unavailable. Take your time going from dating to making a commitment. You will want to see the full personality of your sweetie before taking the next step. If you are attached, the two of you flourish in your private moments. Make plenty of one-on-one time a priority. A fellow VIRGO understands you very well.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19)

★★★ Your ability to deflect others' attempts at manipulation will allow you to experience an easier day. Even though you are on the right course and you know what you are doing, you still might feel somewhat awkward. Don't worry — this feeling is only temporary. Tonight: All smiles.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

★★★★★ You could gain a sudden insight. You might ignore it at first, but it will prove to be more relevant than you think. Your creativity will emerge from out of the blue, and it will add zest to everything you do. Be more direct with a loved one. Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

★★★ You will be coming from a fairly rational and solid perspective. Take care of certain personal matters, like scheduling a checkup with your doctor. You could be amazed by what comes out while you're relaxing at home. Tonight: Order in.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

★★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by all the possibilities that lie ahead. Just relax and sort through what is possible, while still keeping an eye on your priorities. You might be surprised by what happens as a result. Tonight: Make calls, and catch up on news.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

★★★ Remain poised, and don't question what you have to offer. Someone's changeability might be a form of manipulation. Listen to forthcoming

news, but be aware of the bigger picture. You can be sure that you have heard only one person's side. Tonight: Do some shopping.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to open a door or create a more adaptable situation. Be ready to do whatever it takes to get where you want to go. You could be more hot-tempered than you realize. Think in terms of financial gains. Tonight: Only what makes you happy.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

★★★ Take your time right now, as you seem to have a lot on your mind. You might not feel as if you can deal with everything that is happening around you. For that reason, hold off on making any decisions until you are 100 percent sure. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

★★★★★ A meeting or get-together with friends will enlighten you about a matter that you had not even considered. Someone who admires you will do everything possible to help you relax. Let this person know that you appreciate his or her efforts. Tonight: Where the action is.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

★★★★★ Take the lead on a financial matter, and your bank account will benefit. You can revamp your money situation with some help from a respected adviser or family member. Your instincts will guide you through a problem. Tonight: All eyes are on you.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19)

★★★★★ You might stumble upon some valuable information. Your instincts will be right-on with someone at a distance. You see possibilities where others don't. Communicating your thoughts to them will happen with ease when you are ready. Tonight: Wherever there is great music.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18)

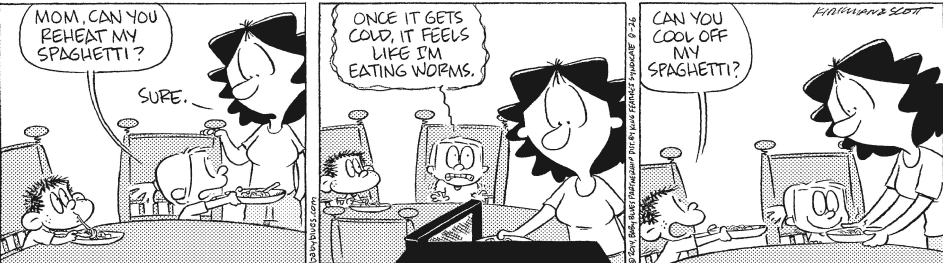
★★★★★ Deal with a loved one directly to get to the root of a problem. A higher-up will run with the information you give him or her. Let others put in their two cents. You might get significant feedback. An older person could be cold and demanding. Tonight: Play the night away.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20)

★★★★★ Get some feedback before you act on a decision. You have the energy and resources necessary to help others succeed. Share more with them, and they will be more supportive. Have a conversation with a loved one who might be insecure. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

© 2014, King Feature Syndicate

BABY BLUES | RICK KIRKMAN AND JERRY SCOTT



BLONDIE | YOUNG & DRAKE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM | MIKE PETERS

